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Amendments to the Claims

(None)

1. (Previously presented) A method for converting a first set of elements into a second set of elements, using a computer system providing a translation function for translating a block of elements of a first set into a block of elements of a second set in accordance with a table specifying for each element of said first set either one particular element of the second set or an exception handling element, said function being further provided to interrupt processing whenever an element is processed marked by an exception handling element in said table, so that an exception handling function can be executed, said method comprising the steps of:

splitting said first set of elements into a first subset consisting of such elements getting translated to one particular element of said second set and a second subset consisting of the remaining elements of said first set;

composing a first table which contains an entry for each of said first set of elements and in which each element belonging to the first subset is assigned to the respective element of the second set and all elements of said second subset are assigned to an exception handling element;

composing a second table representing rules according to which an exception handling function translates said elements of said second subset;

determining a block of data to be converted, whereby said data is formed by elements of said first set;

providing said first and second table and said determined block of data to said translation function; and

processing said translation function.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said first set is formed by characters having a first property and said second set is formed by said characters having a second property.
3. (Original) The method of claim 2 wherein said first property and said second property are made up by lowercase, uppercase or titlecase.
4. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein converting a first set of elements into a second set of elements is formed by a case conversion.
5. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said first set and said second set are formed by characters encoded in an universal character encoding standard used for representation of text for computer processing.
6. (Original) The method of claim 5 wherein said standard is the Unicode standard.
7. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the step of composing the first table includes the steps of:

determining the codes of all uncased characters; and

assigning in the first table to the determined codes of characters an exception handling character.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein there is further provided a first chart listing all codes of characters to be translated and the codes of their mapping into the different cases and a second chart containing a list of conditioned mappings, said step of composing the first table comprising the steps of:

taking from the first chart all codes of characters to be translated;

determining the codes of characters that have an entry in the second chart; and

assigning in the first table to the determined codes of characters an exception handling character.

9. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein there is further provided a first chart listing all codes of characters to be translated and the codes of their mapping into the different cases and a second chart containing a list of conditioned mappings, said step of composing the second table including the steps of:

taking from the second chart all codes, mappings and conditions;

determining the codes of characters in the first chart that have an entry in the second chart; and

adding the determined codes of characters and the respective mappings to the second table.

10. (Original) A computer program product stored on a computer usable medium, comprising computer readable program means for causing a computer to perform the method of claim 1.
11. (Original) An integrated circuit comprising hardware implementing the steps of the method of claim 1.
12. (Original) A device comprising the integrated circuit of claim 11.
13. (Original) A computer program for execution in a data processing system comprising computer program code portions for performing respective steps of the method of claim 1.

14. (Original) The computer program of claim 13 comprising a browser program.
15. (Previously presented) A system for converting a first set of elements into a second set of elements, comprising a computer system providing a translation function for translating a block of elements of a first set into a block of elements of a second set in accordance with a table specifying for each element of said first set either one particular element of the second set or an exception handling element, said function being further provided to interrupt processing whenever an element is processed marked by an exception handling element in said table, so that an exception handling function can be executed, said computer system comprising:

a first portion configured to cause the computer system to split said first set of elements into a first subset consisting of such elements getting translated to one particular element of said second set and a second subset consisting of the remaining elements of said first set;

a second portion configured to cause the computer system to compose a first table which contains an entry for each of said first set of elements and in which each element belonging to the first subset is assigned to the respective element of the second set and all elements of said second subset are assigned to an exception handling element;

a third portion configured to cause the computer system to compose a second table representing rules according to which an exception handling function translates said elements of said second subset;

a fourth portion configured to cause the computer system to determine a block of data to be converted, whereby said data is formed by elements of said first set;

a fifth portion configured to cause the computer system to provide said first and second table and said determined block of data to said translation function; and

a sixth portion configured to cause the computer system to process said translation function.

16. (Original) The system of claim 15 arranged for being used as an Internet server.
17. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 in which at least one element of the first set has a context dependent relation to one or more elements of the second set, said second table specifying, for each of a plurality of contexts, an element of the second set to be used in such context.
18. (Previously presented) The system of claim 15 in which at least one element of the first set has a context dependent relation to one or more elements of the second set, said second table specifying, for each of a plurality of contexts, an element of the second set to be used in such context.
19. (Previously presented) In a computer system having a translation function for translating a block of elements of a first set into a block of elements of a second set in accordance with a translation table specifying for each element of the first set either one particular element of the second set or an exception handling element, said translation function being interrupted and an exception handling function being executed whenever an element being processed is marked by an exception handling element in said translation table, a method for converting a first block of data comprising a first set of elements into a second block of data comprising a second set of elements, said first set of elements comprising a first subset consisting of such elements that are translated to one particular element of said second set and a second subset consisting of the remaining elements of said first set, said method comprising the steps of:

providing a first table containing an entry for each of said first set of elements, with each element belonging to the first subset being assigned to the respective element of the second set and all elements of said second subset being assigned to an exception handling element;

providing a second table specifying rules for translating said elements of said second subset;

processing said first block of data with said translation function, using said first table as a translation table; and

upon encountering an element marked by an exception handling element in said first table, executing said exception handling function to translate said element in accordance with rules specified by said second table.

20. (Previously presented) The method of claim 19 in which at least one element of the first set has a context dependent relation to one or more elements of the second set, said second table specifying, for each of a plurality of contexts, an element of the second set to be used in such context.
21. (Previously presented) The method of claim 19 in which said translation function is implemented by a machine instruction of said computer system.
22. (Previously presented) A computer program product stored on a computer usable medium, comprising computer readable program means for causing a computer to perform the method of claim 19.
23. (Previously presented) In a computer system having a translation function for translating a block of elements of a first set into a block of elements of a second set in accordance with a translation table specifying for each element of the first set either one particular element of the second set or an exception handling element, said translation function being interrupted and an exception handling function being executed whenever an element being processed is marked by an exception handling element in said translation table, apparatus for converting a first block of data comprising a first set of elements into a second block of data comprising a second set of elements, said first set of elements

comprising a first subset consisting of such elements that are translated to one particular element of said second set and a second subset consisting of the remaining elements of said first set, said apparatus comprising:

means for providing a first table containing an entry for each of said first set of elements, with each element belonging to the first subset being assigned to the respective element of the second set and all elements of said second subset being assigned to an exception handling element;

means for providing a second table specifying rules for translating said elements of said second subset;

means for processing said first block of data with said translation function, using said first table as a translation table; and

means responsive to encountering an element marked by an exception handling element in said first table for executing said exception handling function to translate said element in accordance with rules specified by said second table.

24. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 in which said first and second sets of elements are from a common character set and in which said first set of elements has a first case and said second set of elements has a second case different from said first case.
25. (Previously presented) The system of claim 15 in which said first and second sets of elements are from a common character set and in which said first set of elements has a first case and said second set of elements has a second case different from said first case.
26. (Previously presented) The method of claim 19 in which said first and second sets of elements are from a common character set and in which said first set of elements has a first case and said second set of elements has a second case different from said first case.

27. (Previously presented) The system of claim 23 in which said first and second sets of elements are from a common character set and in which said first set of elements has a first case and said second set of elements has a second case different from said first case.